



Greenville Recreation & Parks Department

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November 2, 2009

Mr. Clarence Coleman, Preconstruction and Environment Director
ATTN: Mr. Ron Lucas
Federal Highway Administration
North Carolina Division
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, NC 27601

RE: Stantonsburg Road/Tenth Street Connector Project, TIP No. U-3315

Dear Mr. Coleman:

The City of Greenville, in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, is developing the referenced project that will extend Tenth Street to connect with Stantonsburg Road at its intersection with Memorial Drive. Through the project's development process, three alternatives are now being studied in detail for this project. It has been identified that the Beatrice Maye Garden is in the project study area and that the project may require the acquisition of land from the Beatrice Maye Garden for the project. The City understands that Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act of 1966 may apply to a publicly owned park. The purpose of this letter is to document the City's agreement with and support of the project, as well as to address the Department's concerns about the potential for a Section 4(f) issue.

The Recreation & Parks Department is responsible for the Beatrice Maye Garden and is aware of the referenced project's potential impacts to the park. The park area is a triangular piece of open space land approximately one-half acre in size and is bordered by Farmville Boulevard, Tyson Street, and Davenport Street. (Attached is a Vicinity Map and photos of the area.) The open space was dedicated in honor of Mrs. Maye for her support and dedication to the citizens of Greenville on October 20, 2002. There are currently no amenities available in the open space area, such as: parking, picnic tables, playgrounds, recreational fields, lighting, public buildings, or facilities on the property. Our department's plan for this park area includes the addition of future garden beds, landscaping, and gravel pathways.

The City understands that Section 4(f) applies to any significant publicly owned public park or recreation area. As defined by the Federal Highway Administration (*Section 4(f) Policy Paper*, March 1, 2005), "Significance" means "that in comparing the availability and function of a park or recreational area with the park or recreation objectives of the community or authority, the resource in question plays an important role in meeting those objectives."

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*Working to positively impact the health, economy, natural environment & well being
of the Greenville Community.*